(b) what are the Rehabilitation Schemes that have been introduced by Government for mentally ill in past five years and what are the scheme which are being planned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) Eleven Half-way Homes for psycho-social rehabilitation of treated and controlled mentally ill persons are being funded by this Ministry. The beneficiaries in four of these homes are only women.

(b) The Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme of this Ministry has been catering to the rehabilitation needs of the mentally ill.

Problem of begging

3466. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether begging and giving alms are offences in the capital city;

(b) if so, whether there are agencies to check these beggars who are causing nuisance at traffic signals; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) Begging is an offence in the Capital city under the Bombay prevention of Begging Act, 1959 as extended to Delhi. Under this Act, giving alms is not an offence.

(b) Delhi Police is the agency to check the menace at traffic signals.

(c) Does not arise.

Ratification of international Convention of Rights of persons with Disabilities

3467. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state: